

IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD

WHEN THE CRADLE CONFOUNDS STATECRAFT

The International Sunday School Lesson for July 6 is, "The Child Moses Saved From Death"—Ex. 1:8-14; 22 to 2:10.

(By WILLIAM T. ELLIS.)

One sure sign that the world is growing wiser is its return to the great simplicities. We are understanding afresh that the elemental things really govern life. The science of government is not a mysterious thing; the daily newspapers are interpreting it for us in terms of the common welfare and of every-day righteousness. Diplomacy, once looked upon as a subtle, sinuous art, possible only to astute men of special training, is now seen to be but the frank interpretation of one nation to another, and the promotion of mutual good will and helpfulness. While the sticklers for red tape were cynically pointing out that James Bryce was not a trained diplomatist, he quietly went on his way with a message of good will, accomplishing a work of diplomacy such as none of the specialists who had preceded him had ever begun to approach.

While statesmen have figured how to out-manuever each other in Europe, the new-school political economist rises and points out that Germany's superiority over France is inevitable, simply because Germany has a far higher birth rate than France. The Balkan war set us studying statistics as to the relative power of the Slav and the Teuton, and we find that the future is in the hand that holds the rattle today. The destiny of nations is, when the last word is spoken, a matter of the birth-rate and of child-training.

This profound principle a multitude of persons are glimpsing as they enter upon child welfare work. They follow the example of the only Teacher who set a child in the midst. We are witnessing a marvelous modern expression of the gospel impulse toward the sanctity of the children. Unsentimental economists are learning today that for a nation babies are better than bonds; a low death rate for children is more desirable than high interest rate for money; that boys and girls pay better than stock dividends. A community with healthy infants is more potent than one with a great political organization. School houses are a better investment than office buildings, not to mention the way they supersede almshouses and jails. The child, our newly anointed eyes perceive, is the deliverer of the nation.

The New Politics.

The sound political wisdom of all this is apparent to the ordinary man. We are beginning to understand the relationship to real patriotism of all the beautiful modern movements for the welfare of children. We see that from the baby-saving show to the new teachings in pedagogy, we are engaged in a glorious conspiracy to make a better nation.

We are putting the teacher in a higher place than the law-maker. The father of a family is seen to be of more importance than the political "worker" who gets out votes on election day. Even the bat-blind politicians are groping toward an understanding of the truth that the day school and the Sunday School and the playground are factors in the national welfare.

The child Moses, studied this week by the Sunday schools of the world, is concentrating immeasurable attention upon this great principle of the primacy of child welfare. It is an appropriate coincidence that in the week of this lesson there should be met in Zurich the World's Sunday School Convention, representing thirty million members, out of every nation under heaven. It seems an altogether reasonable thing that approximately two thousand persons should have traveled from North America to Switzerland to consider the religious training of the child. This is constructive statesmanship. It concerns the making of character, and character alone makes nations.

Taught By The Child.

One of the most beautiful of the immortal tales of human life is this story of the child Moses. It is eternally contemporaneous. The centuries make no difference. The babe in the little boat of bulrushes, confided carefully to the flags along the river bank, is as real as the child we fondled in our arms an hour ago. The inspired story makes the beloved baby, doomed by cruel decree to death, as real a child as any read about in today's newspaper.

The parents saw that Moses was "a goodly child"—as if any baby ever looked otherwise to the fond eyes of its parents! The preciousness of the baby, which has stoutered the hearts of millions of fathers and given strength and inventiveness to countless mothers, shines out in this story. The resourcefulness of these slave parents in endeavoring to save the life of their baby does not cause us to marvel. All of the great lessons of life are learned at the cradle. The greatest incentive to thrift in the world today is the prospective welfare of children. A baby is a higher education.

A modern magazine poem, by Isabel M. Mackay, beautifully expresses

the office of a baby in expanding the horizon and capacity of life:

"She came to me at Christmas time and made me mother, and it seemed

There was a Christ indeed and He had given me the joy I'd dreamed.

"She nestled to me, and I kept her near and warm, surprised to find The arms that held my babe so close were opened wider to her kind.

"I hid her safe within my heart. 'My heart,' I said, 'is all for you.' But lo! She left the door ajar, and all the world came flocking through.

"She needed me. I learned to know the royal joy that service brings. She was so helpless that I grew to love all little helpless things.

"She trusted me, and I, who ne'er had trusted, save in self, grew cold With panic lest this precious life should know no stronger, surer hold.

"She lay and smiled and in her eyes I watched my narrow world grow abroad. Within her tiny, crumpled hand I touched the mighty hand of God."

A Deathless Story.

When it comes to telling a story with matchless simplicity and dignity, and power to write itself upon the memory, there is no language like Scripture. Here is the lesson story as the inspired pen wrote it:

"And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.

"And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. And the woman conceived, and bare a son; and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch; and she put the child therein, and laid it in the flags by the river's brink. And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him. And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river-side; and she saw the ark among the flags, and sent her handmaid to fetch it. And she opened it, and saw the child; and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children. Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee? And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it."

Enter The Princess.

It was the usage of Egyptian women, even as it is today of the women along the Ganges and the Tigris, to bathe at stated places. The mother of Moses chose, with the cunning of love, the spot known to everybody as the scene of the ceremonial ablutions of Pharaoh's daughter. The plot was perfectly transparent, and the princess saw through it, but condoned it none the less. She doubtless well understood when she rescued the Hebrew babe why it had been put there, and the relationship of the little girl, Miriam, to it, and the motherhood of the nurse secured for it.

Superficially, women do not get along as well together as do men, but in the depths of life women find themselves closer kin. There never was a good woman appealed to in vain by the cry of a baby. This is the prehistoric language which stirs the elemental abysses of a woman's nature. When the feeble cry of the babe Moses came to the ears, Pharaoh's daughter was not a princess, but just a woman with the ageless hunger for a child in her heart.

First in a royal line of history-makers, was this daughter of wealth and power who exercised the privilege of using her capacity for service. We can name a host of splendidly endowed young women in our own land and time who follow in the train of Pharaoh's daughter. The opportunity to give a child his chance, which lies before every woman of wealth, staggers the imagination.

What leaders of men, what musicians, and artists, and writers have been lost to the world because there was no Pharaoh's daughter near to do a service which is nobler than leading an army! A few days ago I saw at a college graduation a young woman stenographer, who was glowing with pride because a younger relative whom she had educated was in the graduating class. That experience of service had lifted her life up to the vicarious level, making beautiful and glorious all the drudgery of office work. She wore the purple of Pharaoh's daughter.

What a Palace Cannot Do.

The factors that entered into this great story should be kept in their relative position. The princess saved the life of Moses and insured his being educated in all the learnings of the Egyptians. But it was not in this school that he gained the impulse and the equipment which made him the deliverer of his nation. It was the religion learned at his mother's knee, the stories of the patriarchs, the tales of bondage, and the promises to Abraham, which filled the youthful imagi-

nation with purposes to be fulfilled in nativity.

Every student of the story should stand steadfast, with clear judgment, here. It is faith which forms character. Higher than the so-called "higher education" is the lesson of faith in God and of obligation to serve the world in highest ways. The colleges will furnish the world leaders in many walks of life, but the great emancipators of their kind from the ever-developing new thralldoms of life will have to come out of the ranks of the common people. The family is the nursery of the great. The ideals which make history are learned nowhere so clearly as in the home-taught Bible. The restoration of domestic religion in America is a crying political need of the hour. None of the laws of amelioration, so plentifully written of late on the statute books, is as important to our land as Christian nurture in the home.

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS.

A man's reputation is what his fellowmen think of him; his character is what God knows of him.—Anon.

I bow before the noble mind That freely some great wrong forgives.

Yet nobler is the one forgiven Who bears the burden well and lives. —A. A. Procter.

My spark may grow greater by kindling my brother's taper.—Jeremy Taylor.

Spend no strength in worry; you need it all for duty.—Anon.

There is nothing in this world a human soul need ever fear except its own cowardice or want of faith.—Seelye.

It is not growing, like a tree In bulk doth make men better be: In small proportions we just beauties see.

And in short measures life may perfect be. —Ben Johnson.

Oh, the littleness of the lives that we are living, denying to ourselves the bigness of that thing which it is to be a man, to be a child of God!—Phillips Brooks.

HOW TEACHERS MAKE A LIVING.

Though teaching may not be a sweated industry, a nation-wide investigation has shown that the increased cost of living and the tendency of teachers' salaries to remain stationary compel many teachers to seek supplementary employment in order to make both ends meet. In some cases it was found that janitors receive more than teachers. One woman teacher wrote that her brother, a plasterer, receives \$6 and she \$2 a day. In Atlanta it is reported that the salary of an elevator boy at the city hall exceeds an established wage for one of the grades by nearly \$100 a year.

The investigation, which covered over one year, was made by a committee of the National Education Association. Information was received from 1,735 teachers.

While the comparison of teachers' salaries today with teachers' salaries of a former period will not be completed before the end of this school year, the committee presents some interesting information about the economic and social conditions of teachers in five cities. The average salaries of women grade teachers are, for Atlanta, \$564.83; for Hamilton, \$629.60; for New Haven, \$676.48; for Cincinnati, \$888.03; for Denver, \$893.32.

In this connection it is interesting to note the figures on teachers' salaries recently compiled by the Division of Education of the Russell Sage Foundation. According to that study thousands of rural teachers throughout the Southern States receive less than \$150 a year. Taking the country as a whole, the average annual wage of carpenters is declared to be \$802, of coal miners \$600, of factory workers \$550, of common laborers, \$513, and of teachers \$485. One Southern State rents its convicts to contractors at a little more than \$400 a year and pays its public school teachers slightly over \$300.

In Atlanta, women grade teachers add to their salaries from other sources an average of \$31.45 a year; in Hamilton, \$28.74; in New Haven, \$45.24; in Cincinnati, \$51.18, and in Denver, \$94.40.

While outside employment does not seem very productive it is extremely varied. One teacher acts as umpire at football games, another writes plots for moving picture shows and a number do dressmaking. Others are serving as a bookkeeper in a small store, cashier in a department store and as waitress in summer hotels. One is pastor of a small church, another is a chauffeur, a third raises chickens and one "gives expert advice to a manufacturing firm."—The Survey.

TWO BEST BOOKS IN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY.

Albert Bigelow Paine's "Mark Twain: A Biography" was included in the list of "the best twenty-five books of the last 20 years for a private library" recently chosen in Springfield, Mass. In response to the request of the city library bulletin for aid in compiling the list, three hundred and sixty different were suggested. The only history chosen was President Wilson's "History of the American People."

We would like to write for posterity, but posterity can sign no checks.

DIRECTORATES THAT BREED WAR

When Strife Threatens, "Find the Banker"

"A MATTER OF BUSINESS"

Only That and Nothing More—Business and Diplomacy Interlocked in Europe, Says Dr. Jordan.

"The 'interlocking directorate' is highly developed in Europe because it fits perfectly into schemes of imperialism. In Europe as in America, it promotes financial stability," says Dr. David Starr Jordan in the July number of the World's Work. "It also provides for the steady movement of money from the careless hands of the public to the vaults of the rich. It is especially the agency by which the resources of weak or barbarous countries are drawn to swell the wealth of the great centers of exploiting Christendom. The degradation of 'world politics' to the ape and tiger level is accomplished by such means. Through its agency was is no longer a matter of emotionalism or of patriotism. Where war is permitted it is strictly a matter of business. Where war would interfere with business, it cannot break out.

"The French have a phrase when a crime is committed, 'C'est le crime'—find the woman. Now when war is threatened or a revolution breaks out, 'C'est le banquier'—seek the banker. Find out who makes money from the disturbance, and then trace the chain of interlocking directorates which lead to the center.

"In Germany we may fairly regard the Emperor as the center of a gigantic mutual investment organization, with its three branches of aristocracy, militarism, and finance, all the powers of the State, military as well as diplomatic, being placed at the service of the combined interests. In so far as other nations are 'powers,' the fact is due to the influence of similar interlocking combinations. This is certainly true in England, France and Russia; and the 'Dollar Diplomacy' of the United States, now happily of the past, was based on the same fundamental principle.

"By such means, the foreign policy of each of these 'Great Powers' is directed to safeguard the ventures of those great banks which make a specialty of foreign risks. In Europe the governments everywhere frankly make open cause with the interests. The foreign offices are, therefore, for the most part, little more than the firm names under which these interlocking syndicates transact their foreign business."

EPIDEMIC OF JEWELRY THIEVES IN LONDON NOW

European Large Cities Seem To Be Infested With International Crooks—Close Watch On The Crowds.

(By the Associated Press.)

London, June 28.—London and several other large cities of England have been suffering of late from an epidemic of jewelry and other robberies. From the way some of the thefts have been carried out the police have come to the conclusion that they are the work of expert international crooks, and the authorities are keeping a close watch on the crowds of those gentry who visit London during the season. Other cases, however, are obviously the work of amateurs several of whom, leaving well-marked trails behind them, have been gathered in by the detectives from Scotland Yard. That the police, on the other hand, have been baffled by many of the robberies in which large sums have been involved, they themselves admit. In one or two cases they are convinced that the "victims" reported robberies to cover losses of jewelry either through extravagance or gambling, and these occurrences have been marked off the police books as solved. Still a large number of cases are receiving close attention.

One of the most daring of these recent thefts was made from Christie's, the famous auction rooms, which is probably one of the best guarded places in the metropolis. At the conclusion of a day's sale the attendants found that three important engravings had been taken from the walls. How they were carried away is a complete mystery. They were all framed, and of a fairly large size, but nevertheless none of the watchful attendants saw anything suspicious. Robberies have been very rare at Christie's, where articles of enormous value are always being shown or sold. The last occasion on which one was attempted was some years ago, when an American woman tried to take a pearl necklace. She was caught and sent to prison.